

## **MINUTES**

### **City of San Diego Park and Recreation Board BALBOA PARK COMMITTEE**

December 5, 2002

**Meeting held at:**

Balboa Park Club, Santa Fe Room  
2150 Pan American Road  
San Diego, CA 92101

**Mailing address is:**

Balboa Park Administration  
2125 Park Boulevard MS39  
San Diego, CA 92101-4792

**ATTENDANCE:**

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Members Absent</b>	<b>Staff Present</b>	<b>Staff Absent</b>
Laurie Burgett		Michael Behan	
Darlene Davies		DeVere Brasted	
Vicki Granowitz		Charlie Daniels	
Jeffrey Kirsch		Kathleen Hasenauer	
Dan Mazzella		Beth Murray	
Nancy Rodriguez		Trudy Sopp	
Paul Rucci			
Joe Silverman			
Warren Simon			
Michael Stepner			
Jeffery Tom			

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Mazzella called the meeting to order at 6:35 P.M.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MSC IT WAS MOVED/SECONDED, AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO  
APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 7, 2002 MEETING.  
(RUCCI/KIRSCH 10-0)**

**REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCES**

\_\_\_\_\_None

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Assemblywoman Chris Kehoe thanked the Balboa Park Committee (BPC) members for all of their dedication and time spent attending numerous meetings. She commended their invaluable service. Assemblywoman Kehoe cited several significant achievements in Balboa Park as a result of funding of various projects by the City. Of note, are the reconstruction of the House of Hospitality and the House of Charm, the expansion of the Natural History Museum and the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, and the construction of

the Balboa Park Activity Center (BPAC). Many visitors are drawn to Balboa Park as a destination due to the regional, national and international reputation the Park has achieved due to the arts, cultural, sports and horticultural elements.

The success of the Parking, Circulation and Land Use Study is a critical component to the future of Balboa Park. She noted that crime has been reduced in Balboa Park since 1992 through the use of the Retired Senior Volunteers Program, canyon patrols and the Police Mounted Enforcement Unit.

Janet Fairbanks, an area resident, has been appointed by the Uptown Planning Group as a representative to the San Diego Rescue Mission. She was given a copy of their Conditional Use Permit (CUP) and noted that the CUP does not address the entire park. She would like to see a member from the BPC added to the Advisory Committee which is tasked with facilitating and managing homeless issues in Balboa Park.

Jeffery Tom commented on concerns voiced with the 1<sup>st</sup> and Elm Street location of the San Diego Rescue Mission. He suggested the staff gather data on loitering, aggressive pan-handling, public urination, etc. Officer Getz has information on various projects to address the homeless issue.

Michael Behan stated that the Park and Recreation Department would work with the Police Department on the homeless issues.

Darlene Davies stated that she is on the Capital Campaign for the San Diego Rescue Mission.

### **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

A thank you note was received regarding the manner in which the Dog Off-Leash Action Item was managed at the November meeting. The professionalism and the sincerity of the BPC was appreciated.

Jones & Jones has been selected as the Parking, Circulation and Land Use Consultant. A contact list and a calendar of Public Involvement Meetings will be established and published. Three BPC members will be asked to preside at each meeting. Negotiations are proceeding with Jones & Jones. One group of stakeholders that has been identified is the Disabled. A sub-committee will be formed to address the needs of the Disabled.

A second sub-committee will be created to address the Naval Hospital Lease. Paul Rucci will be the liaison for the BPC. A third sub-committee will look at the conversion of methane gas to energy. One company has been identified as successful in this endeavor. Two more sub-committees will address Rules & Criteria for groups who want to come to Balboa Park to set up exhibits or events. They will be given the task of identifying procedures.

The Park & Recreation Board is gaining additional knowledge of the Environmental Impact Report relative to how it functions and the time lines associated with the process.

The BPC Retreat has been scheduled for Saturday, February 1, from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., in the House of Hospitality Requa Board Room. Chairperson Mazzella introduced Trudy Sopp who will facilitate the Retreat. Trudy will interview all of the BPC members and work with Dan to set the Agenda for the day.

Members discussed and all were in favor of changing the January 2 BPC meeting to January 9.

### **STAFF REPORT**

1. Michael Behan announced that the "City Beautiful" Poinsettia Display at the Botanical Building will be open to the public on Friday, December 6 at 10:00 A.M.

Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) will be created for the \$6 million in grant funds for the re-construction of the West Arcade, repair/painting of the exterior of the California Tower, repair of the facade of the Museum of Art and Casa del Prado and construction of a Veterans Memorial Garden. No major construction will occur in the summer months.

The FY 2004 budget process has begun. All City Departments have been asked to identify 5% cuts.

Electric vehicles driven by City staff will soon be seen in the Park. The goal is to minimize vehicles on El Prado.

2. Div Brasted stated that delays to the Plaza de Panama project are the result of crushed storm drain pipes that need to be replaced. The pre-bid conference for the \$130,000 Rose Garden project was recently held. Twenty-two sidewalk replacement projects have been completed. The safety repairs eliminated tripping hazards. Eleven additional sites have been identified on the west side.

3. Kathleen Hasenauer distributed the December Balboa Park Facilities & Special Events Report, Newsletter and Major Events Update.

4. Charlie Daniels announced that Jones & Jones, the selected consultant, will be asked to attend the next BPC meeting. Preliminary discussions have been held with the Principals of the firm. Documents will be gathered, stakeholders identified and attendance records from the institutions will be requested. The necessity to identify concerns/special issues thoroughly and to process the information quickly is a priority. A Request for Council Action (1472) is a requirement of the contract. Information will be provided on regular basis to the BPC. At Joe Silverman's suggestion, attendance figures from the Recreation facilities and groups meeting in Balboa Park will be provided to

Jones & Jones.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **Consent**

**101.** None

### **Adoption**

**201.** None

## **WORKSHOP ITEMS**

### **301. Scenic SR 163 - Discussion with Sub-Committee & Caltrans**

Jeffery Tom provided an update of this sub-committee and discussed the methods for the community to interface with Caltrans. This evening the boards of the project were available one hour prior to the meeting for public viewing. The public will be invited to the quarterly meetings. Sign-up sheets will be available for those who wish to receive notice of the meetings. A tree planting program will be implemented to replace the seventy trees that have been removed as a result of disease. California natives will be planted. Caltrans will provide notification of the tree removals and the cause for the removals.

Installed brown signs at either end of the 2.5 mile stretch of SR 163 denote the road as a California Historic Parkway. A \$3 million pavement enhancement program will replace the asphalt and concrete. Concern was voiced that the program stay in the current footprint and replace the surface materials with the same materials. The irrigation system will be moved 5' into the median.

The speed limit has been reduced from 65 mph to 55 mph and curve speed limit signs have been installed. A wood with steel reinforcement barricade that could be suitable for the scenic parkway, has recently been installed in University City at Governor and I-805. It is supposedly very substantial and able to absorb impacts.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **401. Park Boulevard Promenade - Project update from the San Diego Zoo**

Beth Murray reported that the City Task Force met for the first time last month. The next meeting is Friday, December 6. The purpose of the Task Force is to discuss policy issues and co-ordinate efforts within the City. The official name is the Zoo Task Force. The City Manager has emphasized the importance of the Task Force. Jeffrey Kirsch requested a more inclusive name for the Task Force.

## **COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS**

Darlene Davies commented that she had recently attended eight events in Balboa Park where the collaborative efforts of the various institutions were evident.

Paul Rucci stated that the \$6 million from Proposition 40 for Balboa Park has been allocated as follows: \$1.5 million - reconstruct West Arcade, \$450,000 - repair/paint California Tower exterior, \$1.5 million - repair Museum of Art facade, \$1.5 million - repair Casa del Prado facade and \$1 million construction of Veterans Memorial Garden.

Vicki Granowitz was pleased to hear Beth Murray's report and is glad that a Task Force has been formed.

Laurie Burgett commented on the need for arbitration for the two sides in the dogs off leash issue. One idea would entail meeting with Michael Behan to fashion a solution that would meet both sides. She stated that the groups are unwilling to work together.

Joe Silverman voiced concerns of the Balboa Park/Morley Field Recreation Council, regarding the length of time and activities proposed by a group that wishes to use the BPAC for two weeks in January.

Kathleen Hasenauer provided information on the Global Village proposal and review process to date. Specific information is required of Global Village before any decisions will be made. She gave an overview of the Special Event Permit Application process and discussed events proposed for Balboa Park during the Super Bowl time-frame.

Joe stated that the Recreation Council discussed Dogs off Leash Area Issue - Community Forum, at their December 4 meeting. They are in favor of a survey and not a forum.

Nancy Rodriguez reported that the Balboa Park Cultural Partnership (BPCP) met all day on November 28 and fast-tracked their governance structure. They plan to make decisions in January or February. Nancy extended an invitation to BPC members to visit the Centro Cultural de la Raza and see their Ballet Folkloric Program.

Jeffrey Kirsch commented that the BPCP is concerned about the proposed turn-around near the Moreton Bay Fig tree. He expressed concerns regarding policies and rules relative to commercial events coming to Balboa Park. Jeffrey cited a presentation to the Central Balboa Park Association regarding a commercial event proposed in the summer and the impact to the institutions.

Kathleen Hasenauer stated that the Park & Recreation Department does not permit certain special events on the beaches or parks on holidays or summer weekends. Furthermore, that new events are discouraged from Memorial Day to Labor Day at the beaches and parks due to the large number of visitors to these sites. This is stated in the Special Event Permit Application.

Michael Behan encouraged everyone to provide written comments to the Zoo EIR. They are attached, not edited, and become a permanent part of the document.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Mazzella at 8:15 P.M.

**Next Regular Meeting**

Thursday, January 9, 2003  
6:30 P.M.  
Balboa Park Club Santa Fe Room  
2150 Pan America Road  
San Diego, CA 92101

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Behan  
Staff Representative

KH/kh

